

Dear 6th Grade Student,

Welcome to Visitation Middle School! Summer is such a great time to rest, relax, get outside, try new things, travel and spend time with family and friends. As important as it is to do all of these things, one of the most important things you can always do. . . is to read! To read, simply for the joy and pleasure of reading a good story. Over the summer I would like you to read as much as you can! Read books that interest you and then choose one of those books to write a *Reader's Response Letter*. Your letter will give you a chance to share your thoughts, feelings, reactions, and questions about the ideas, characters, settings, plot, and themes in your book. Reading your letter will also give me a chance to get to know you and your writing style better!

When you are writing about your impressions, connections and wonderings there are only correct responses, so don't be afraid to let me hear your voice in your writing.

Have a wonderful summer and I am eager to meet you next school year!

6th Grade Summer Reading Activity

Book Choice	Free Choice: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Length is over 100 pages.• A book you haven't read or seen the movie.• Look at the suggested reading list or ask your local librarian for help if you are unsure of which book to choose!
Format	A Reader's Response letter that is written to your teacher: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One page or more in length.• Formatted as a friendly letter.• Address your letter by simply saying something like, "Hello!" or "Greetings!" or "Dear English Teacher,• Type or hand write your letter.
Content <i>Paragraph 1:</i>	Briefly describe the setting, characters, and conflict or main problem of the book. Include <u>the book title</u> and name of the author. What were your impressions of the book? Explain.
<i>Paragraph 2:</i>	Connecting to your book: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Choose a Thinking Prompt from the back of this sheet and use it to guide your writing.• I am looking for ways you are able to connect to your book. What did the characters, setting, or story remind you of in your own life? In what ways can you relate to your book?• Avoid summarizing your book. Instead, explain your reactions and connections with details and examples from the book!
<i>Paragraph 3:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Choose a <u>different</u> Thinking Prompt than Paragraph 2 and use it to guide your writing.• I am looking for ways you are able to connect to your book. What did the characters, setting, or story remind you of in your own life? In what ways can you relate to your book?• Avoid summarizing your book! Instead, explain your reactions and connections with details and examples.

Mechanics and Usage	Proofread your letter carefully. Use correct sentence structure, capitalization and punctuation.
Due Date	The first day of school!

Thinking Prompts!

1. This character reminds me of someone I know because...
2. This character reminds me of myself because...
3. This part is realistic/unrealistic because...
4. This section makes me think of _____ because....
5. The character I admire most is _____ because....
6. The character I despise most is _____ because...
7. The relationship between _____ and _____ is interesting/reminds me of _____ because...
8. I wish _____ had happened because...
9. I wondered _____ because...
10. I noticed _____ and it reminded me of _____ because....
11. I wonder why...
12. The most important thing I learned was...
13. Something I still would like to know about _____ is....
14. If I could be one of the characters in this book, it would be _____ because...
15. This book changed the way I think about _____ because...
16. I laughed/cried/criinged/cheered when _____ because...
17. I would give this book the _____ award because...
18. When _____ happens, it reminds me of _____ in my life because...
19. I was surprised when _____ because...
20. The setting of the book reminded me of _____ because...